

# Family Ties

## Dads making a path for families to follow

By Julie Burt

As a child, Sara Hyde wondered why her dad always brought out-of-town guests to JSC, which was then the Manned Spacecraft Center. "I never quite understood what all the excitement was about NASA," Hyde said. "To me it was just where my dad always worked."

Her dad, Robert G. Brown, began working here in 1963 and was a procurement officer. He retired in 1990, one year after she began working for United Space Alliance/Rockwell. Her sister, Mary Bulot, now works for Raytheon.

"When dad worked here, on occasion I would go in Bldg. 17 and get a chance to visit with him and his 'people,'" Hyde said.

He had seen much, working here during Apollo, Shuttle and everything in between, said Hyde.

"Now that we have the International Space Station going I can relate to the excitement that he showed to me all these years. I would have never thought, growing up, that I would be working here. I finally realize what all the excitement is about."

The Iven family—Clem Iven and his wife, Mary Helen, along with their three sons—have totaled nearly 100 years employment within JSC/NASA contracts.

"Our family values are greater because we have more in common and actually spend more time together," Mary Helen said.

Clem has been a NASA contractor employee since January 1964, when he transferred to Houston from Lockheed Missiles and Space Company in Sunnyvale, Calif. He is currently the Project Lead at Space Flight Training and Facility Operations in Bldgs. 5 and 9.

Lockheed Martin has employed his wife, Mary Helen, for the past 29 and a half years. She works in the Lockheed Martin central reproduction facilities. Their

sons also work in the space program: Bobby for Lockheed Martin and both Bernie and Thomas for Oceaneering. Two daughters-in-law actually worked onsite for a short time, as well.

"With each member of the family working in a different area—we feel a bit of each of us on every flight,"

Mary Helen said. "Our sons have built hardware for almost every flight since their employment with JSC. It is with great pride when they see any component they've built being used during a flight."

The members of the Candler family are relative newcomers to the space program, but they have no less pride than those that have been here for decades. Steve Candler began work in the Bldg. 8 photography lab in 1993.

He is currently the Technical Monitor of the Engineering Drawing Control Center. His wife, Bobbie, began in 1997 and works in the ISS Program Library. Their daughter, Amanda, is the newest addition to the

NASA family. She started working as a library assistant in the Science and Technical Information Center last year. "Now we're just waiting for my 12-year old sister to join us," Amanda said with a smile.

"I feel very honored to work here," Amanda said. "I know that my job isn't that important, but...I keep thinking that an engineer has come in looking for a book about welding, or physics or the pressure in the shuttle cabin and in some way I helped him or her solve a problem that is in some way making the space program better, more efficient or safer."

Her dad shares her pride. "Amanda has many high-quality role models surrounding her," he said.

He hopes his daughter will be inspired by these role models, but adds, "perhaps these folks will be inspired by Amanda's artistic abilities and see life through her color of glasses."

Finally, David Carraway and Kacy Carraway Kossum help keep JSC going both internally and externally. David Carraway started here in September of 1996. He is employed by Kelsey-Seybold as an Aerospace Physiologist in the Human Test Support Group (HTSG).

The HTSG provides medical support for all manned tests at JSC as well as supporting the diving operations at the Sonny Carter Training Facility/Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory on a daily basis.

Kossum works in Public Affairs

as the Newsroom Coordinator. "On the front line," said her Dad, "public image is very important."

The two have very different jobs, yet they both work to make sure that the Shuttle missions run smoothly.

"I watch astronauts train in the water for months preparing for a mission," Carraway said. "When the mission finally gets here, I can see the success of my participation in the space program as our guys perform flawless EVAs during flight. I like to think that I helped make that happen and I believe I did."

Kossum supports the newsroom during missions. She arranges astronaut interviews before and after flight and provides a record of astronaut and mission statistics for the press and the public. She interacts with the public everyday fielding calls and answering questions.

Carraway added: "I never in my wildest dreams expected to be working for NASA, and to have Kacy here with me is beyond words. Not only do we have great jobs, we get to interact on a professional level, which makes being a part of NASA even more pleasing."

Kacy explains that her dad is a source of information for her.

"My father works on the training end of things, so I get a different perspective on NASA events and what it takes to prepare for a flight. Plus, he's a contact. If I have a question about the NBL or something that goes on there, I know who to ask."

She then added: "And he can't refuse to help me, because I know where he lives." ■



NASA JSC 2001e11813 photo by Bill Stafford  
Steve Candler is in good company at JSC with his daughter Amanda, left, and his wife Bobbie.



Kacy Carraway Kossum gave her father, David Carraway, a kiss at her wedding. The father and daughter both work at JSC.

# Father's Day is June 17

## Gone but not forgotten

## JSC employee dedicates award to father

By Eric Raub

Christine McDonough has faced some rough times during her 22-year career at JSC.

When her father died 12 years ago, she not only lost a loving parent but she also lost her transportation to work. Yet, neither setback kept her away.

She has a job to do as an Astronaut Office mailroom clerk, and has kept doing it no matter the difficulties. That dedication was recently recognized when she was named the Outstanding Disabled Civil Servant of the Year by the Houston Area Federal Business Association.

"I was very happy to win that award," McDonough said. "It was the biggest milestone of my life. I just feel so overwhelmed by it still that I was chosen. It means the world to me, but I couldn't have done it without my father. He brought me here to JSC and I dedicate this to him."

The Houston Area Federal Business Association's Civil Servant of the Year award has many categories. Awards

are given for scientific research, length of service and even for heroic acts. Previous winners from different categories include former astronaut Donald K. "Deke" Slayton and Equal Opportunity Programs Office Director Estella Hernandez Gillette.

Astronaut pictures, mission patches and lithographs travel all around the world. Chances are good that at one point, many of those items have passed through McDonough's hands. The capability she has shown performing this and other duties earned her the award and put her in prestigious company.

McDonough

has been a clerical assistant in the Astronaut Office for more than two decades. In her position she delivers verbatim phone messages and maintains an excellent rapport with all of the current and former astronauts.

She is also responsible for distributing much of the astronaut and mission material that is found throughout the center, the surrounding community and around the world. Whenever the call comes for patches, pictures or decals, McDonough is more than happy to deliver.

"She is very detail oriented," Gillette said. "When she is asked to perform a task, she pursues every avenue to complete the task

at hand...Her dependability and attention to detail in her work, work that others might find tedious, make her a real asset to the Astronaut Office and the Johnson Space Center."

However, the straw that probably broke the camel's back for McDonough's competition is her 20-plus years of dedication in just getting to work. McDonough does not drive, yet somehow she always finds a way to get to work.

For more than two decades, she has busied, taxied and carpooled her way to the office all the way from Pasadena. She has drained her leave and her pocketbook in a seemingly never-ending search to find a way to JSC.

Transportation costs can run McDonough \$20 dollars a day, but it doesn't stop her.

"There are some days when we don't want to come into work," McDonough said.

"We all have those days. But when I think about the guys and gals—the astronauts—it causes me to come in...It's like another world out here." ■

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- Christine McDonough